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Justification for Recoverage of TYURA TAM

1. TYURA TAM/KLYUCHI ballistic missile test range is the only known Soviet ICBM flight test facility. In addition, the TYURA TAM area has been the launch point for all three Soviet earth satellite vehicles.

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CHALICE coverage of the TYURA TAM area is now one year old; during this year, Soviet ICBM and space flight test program *has not* *is continuing* at a rapid pace. Because of the priority interest in the status of the Soviet ICBM program and the continuing need of US planners for advance data on future Soviet space flight activities, additional *TALENT* CHALICE coverage of the TYURA TAM rangehead area is ~~extremely desirable~~ *info*.

2. The following are examples of the types of valuable intelligence data likely to be acquired from such coverage:

a. Soviet ICBM Operational Deployment Concept. In August 1957 there was a new area (Area B) under construction west of the main launch facility. This area was to be rail served and could well be the prototype for operational ICBM deployment. Current coverage of this area could, therefore, provide knowledge of

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Soviet ICBM operational deployment concepts which could be utilized in additional intelligence collection and assessment.

b. Future Soviet Space Flight Activities. Present assessments of the large launch facility at TYURA TAM indicate that it was designed for more than just ICBM flight testing.

Estimates of future Soviet space flight activities indicate Soviet capabilities for new and advanced achievements in space flight fields, which achievements are of critical concern to our national planners. CHALICE coverage of the TYURA TAM area could provide indications of the type and purpose of future Soviet earth satellites. A specific example would be possible indications, from the orientation of rhombic antennae, of intentions to launch an earth satellite vehicle due east for possible recovery on the VLADIMOROVKA/LAKE BALKHASH test range.

c. Characteristics of Soviet ICBM and/or ESV. The firing rate on the TYURA TAM range is sufficiently high,

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CHALICE coverage of such a vehicle would permit assessment of the vehicle's characteristics. A particular controversial point at the moment involves the actual dimensions of the Soviet ICBM and whether or not it is a "two stage" vehicle or employs "parallel" staging.

d. Priority of the Soviet ICBM/ESV Program. The construction rate and type facilities located at the TYURA TAM area would provide an indication of the priority of the program as well as an indication of the planned size and flight test rate envisioned thereon.

e. Additional Technical Details. In addition to the foregoing, TALENT coverage would provide better details on the launcher per se, ground support equipment, and other supporting facilities such as possible new fuel facilities. Of particular concern is the method of launching ICBMs and ESVs from the large launcher; is the ICBM lowered into the launcher or fired from the top of the launcher?

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